

COMPONENTS

Kit Component	Amount
96-well plate pre-coated with anti-human CCL17/TARC antibody	1 Plate
Protein Standard: Lyophilized recombinant human CCL17/TARC	2 tubes, 10 ng/tube
Sample Diluent Buffer	30 ml
Biotinylated Antibody (Anti-human CCL17/TARC)	130 μ l (100x)
Antibody Diluent Buffer	12ml
Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Complex (ABC) Solution	130 μ l (100x)
ABC Diluent Buffer	12 ml
Tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) Color Developing Agent	10 ml
TMB Stop Solution	10 ml

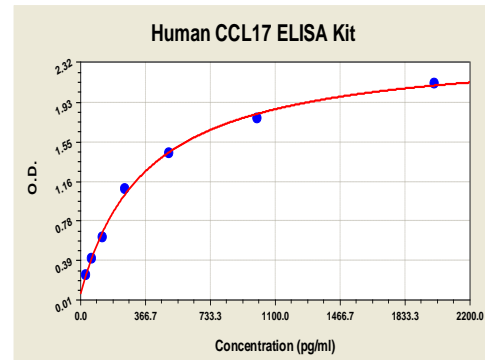
Washing Buffer (not provided): TBS or PBS

0.01M TBS: Add 1.2g Tris, 8.5g NaCl; 450 μ l of purified acetic acid or 700 μ l of concentrated hydrochloric acid to 900ml H₂O and adjust pH to 7.2-7.6. Adjust the total volume to 1L.

0.01M PBS: Add 8.5g sodium chloride, 1.4g Na₂HPO₄ and 0.2g NaH₂PO₄ to 900ml distilled H₂O and adjust pH to 7.2-7.6. Adjust the total volume to 1L.

Storage

Store at 4°C. Cell Applications, Inc. recommends using the kit within 6 months of order.



X	pg/ml	0.0	31.2	62.5	125	250	500	1000	2000
Y	O.D.	0.073	0.225	0.415	0.625	1.089	1.443	1.781	2.116

Figure 1: CCL17/TARC Standard Curve. Using the Human CCL17/TARC ELISA Kit, O.D. data was graphed against CCL17/TARC protein concentration. The TMB reaction was incubated at 37°C for 16 min.

BACKGROUND

Chemokines (Chemotactic Cytokines) are small heparin-binding proteins, which constitute a large family of peptides (60-100 amino acids) structurally related to cytokines whose main function is to regulate cell trafficking. They are subdivided into four families based on the number and spacing of the conserved cysteine residues in the N-terminus of the protein: CXC, CC, CX3C, and C, in agreement with the systematic nomenclature. Chemokines play a major role in selectively recruiting monocytes, neutrophils and lymphocytes as well as inducing chemotaxis through the activation of G-protein-coupled receptors (GPCR).¹ Particularly, chemokines and their receptors are essential components of Th1- and Th2-mediated responses. CXCR3 and CCR5 are mainly expressed on Th1 cells whereas CCR3, CCR4, and CCR8 are more characteristic of Th2 cells. These findings demonstrate that chemokines are important in the amplification and polarization of the immune response.

The inducible chemokine CCL17, previously termed thymus and activation-regulated chemokine (TARC) belonging to the CC chemokine family, is strongly upregulated through Toll-like receptor stimulation. CCL17 and the closely related chemokine CCL22 (MDC) bind to the receptor CCR4, which is known to be expressed on activated/memory cells with a Th2 preference, regulatory T cells, Langerhans cells (LCs), basophils, and macrophages. CCL17 and its receptor have been reported to play a role in endotoxic shock, systemic lupus erythematosus, Hodgkin's lymphoma, and pulmonary fibrosis. CCL17 is expressed constitutively in thymus, but only transiently in phytohemagglutinin-stimulated peripheral blood mononuclear cells. It was shown that CCL17 is specifically expressed by CD8 α -CD11b+DEC205+ dendritic cells (DCs). Moreover, CCL17 plays an essential role in the emigration of DCs from the skin to the skin-draining lymph nodes (LNs).² In addition, it was shown that CCR4 is also highly expressed on both primary malignant cells and leucocytes (tumor-associated macrophages and Treg cells) in these tumor types. Antagonists of CCR4 or CCL17/22 may exert a dual action in these malignancies, inhibiting the pro-tumor immunosuppressive infiltrate as well as having direct effects on cancer cell survival and invasive capacity. Since CCR4 is expressed on only a subset of tumors, there is the potential to select patients expected to be sensitive to CCR4-directed therapies using CCR4 as a companion predictive biomarker.³

References

- Gerard, C. & Rollins, B.J.: Nature Immunol. 2:108-115, 2001
- Saeki, H. & Tamaki, K.: J. Dermatol. Sci. 43:75-84, 2006
- Mizukami, Y. et al: Int. J. Cancer 122:2286-93, 2008

ELISA OVERVIEW

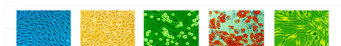
Cell Applications ELISA Kits are based on standard sandwich enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay technology. Freshly prepared standards, samples, and solutions are recommended for best results.

- Prepare test samples.
- Prepare a protein standard of the target protein.
- Add test samples and standards to the pre-coated 96-well plate. Do not wash.
- Add biotinylated detection antibodies. Wash.
- Add Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Complex (ABC) Solution. Wash.
- Add Tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) Color Developing Agent, containing HRP substrate.
- Add TMB Stop Solution
- Subject the plate to analysis.

NOTES:

- Before using the kit, quick spin tubes to bring down all solution to the bottom of tube.
- Duplicate assay wells are recommended for both standard and sample testing.
- Do not let the 96-well plate dry, this will lead to inactivation of plate components.
- When diluting samples and reagents, ensure that they are mixed completely and evenly.
- Pre-warm diluted ABC and TMB solutions at 37°C for 30 min before use to avoid variable temperature effects.
- For washes, use TBS or PBS. Do not touch well walls.
- A protein standard is included in the kit. A protein standard detection curve should be generated with each experiment, no more than 2 hours prior to the experiment.
- The user will determine sample dilution fold by estimation of target protein amount in samples.

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PROTOCOL

I. Plate Washing

Discard the solution in the plate without touching the side walls. Blot the plate onto paper towels or other absorbent material. Soak each well with at least 0.3 ml PBS or TBS buffer for 1–2 minutes. Repeat this process two additional times for a total of three washes.

II. Preparation of Test Samples

Test Sample Processing

- **Cell culture supernate, tissue lysate or body fluids:** Remove particulates by centrifugation.
- **Serum:** Allow the serum to clot in a serum separator tube (about 2 hours) at room temperature. Centrifuge at approximately 1000 X g for 10 min.
- **Plasma:** Collect plasma using EDTA as an anticoagulant. Centrifuge for 15min at 1000 x g within 30 min of collection. Analyze immediately or aliquot and store samples at -20°C.

Sample Dilution Guideline

Estimate the concentration of the target protein in the sample and select a proper dilution factor such that the diluted target protein concentration falls within the standard curve range. Depending on the sample, several trial dilutions may be necessary. Dilute the sample using the provided diluent buffer, mixing well. Suggested working dilutions of samples are as follows:

Target Protein Concentration Range	Sample Working Dilution	Sample Vol.	Diluent Buffer Vol.
20-200 ng/ml	1:100	1 µl	99 µl
2-20 ng/ml	1:10	10 µl	90 µl
31.2-2,000 pg/ml	1:2	50 µl	50 µl
≤31.2 pg/ml	n/a	100µl	n/a

If samples will be assayed within 24 hours, store at 2-8°C. For long-term storage, aliquot and freeze samples at -20°C. Avoid repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

III. Preparation of Reagents

Reconstitution of the Standard

The standard solutions should be prepared no more than 2 hours prior to the experiment. Two tubes of the standard are included in each kit. Use one tube for each experiment.

1. 10,000pg/ml of human CCL17 standard solution: Add 1 ml sample diluent buffer into one tube, keep the tube at room temperature for 10 min and mix thoroughly.
2. 2000pg/ml of human CCL17 standard solution: Add 0.2 ml of the above 10ng/ml CCL17 standard solution into 0.8 ml sample diluent buffer and mix thoroughly.
3. 1000pg/ml→31.2pg/ml of human CCL17 standard solutions: Label 6 Eppendorf tubes with 1000pg/ml, 500pg/ml, 250pg/ml, 125pg/ml, 62.5pg/ml, 31.2pg/ml, respectively. Aliquot 0.3 ml of the sample diluent buffer into each tube. Add 0.3 ml of the above 2000pg/ml CCL17 standard solution into 1st tube and mix. Transfer 0.3 ml from 1st tube to 2nd tube and mix. Transfer 0.3 ml from 2nd tube to 3rd tube and mix, and so on.

Preparation of Biotinylated Antibody Working Solution

The solution should be prepared no more than 2 hours prior to the experiment.

1. The total volume should be: 0.1ml/well x (the number of wells). (Allowing 0.1-0.2 ml more than total volume)
2. Biotinylated antibody should be diluted in 1:100 with the antibody diluent buffer and mixed thoroughly.

Preparation of the Avidin-Biotin-Peroxidase Complex (ABC) Working Solution

The solution should be prepared no more than 1 hour prior to the experiment.

1. The total volume should be: 0.1ml/well x (the number of wells). (Allowing 0.1-0.2 ml more than total volume)
2. Avidin- Biotin-Peroxidase Complex (ABC) should be diluted in 1:100 with the ABC dilution buffer and mixed thoroughly.

IV. ELISA

The ABC working solution and TMB color developing agent must be kept warm at 37°C for 30 min before use. When diluting samples and reagents, they must be mixed completely and evenly. A standard detection curve should be prepared for each experiment. The user will decide sample dilution fold by crude estimation of target protein amount in samples.

1. Aliquot 0.1ml per well of the 2000pg/ml, 1000pg/ml, 500pg/ml, 250pg/ml, 125pg/ml, 62.5pg/ml, 31.2pg/ml human CCL17 standard solutions into the precoated 96-well plate. Add 0.1ml of the sample diluent buffer into the control well (Blank well). Add 0.1ml of each properly diluted sample of human sera, plasma, body fluids, tissue lysates or cell culture supernatants to each empty well. See "Sample Dilution Guideline" for details. We recommend that each human CCL17 standard solution and each sample is measured in duplicate.
2. Seal the plate with the cover and incubate at 37°C for 90 min.
3. Remove the cover, discard plate content, and blot the plate onto paper towels or other absorbent material. Do NOT let the wells completely dry at any time.
4. Add 0.1ml of biotinylated anti-human CCL17 antibody working solution into each well and incubate the plate at 37°C for 60 min.
5. Wash plate 3 times with 0.01M TBS or 0.01M PBS, and each time let washing buffer stay in the wells for 1 min. Discard the washing buffer and blot the plate onto paper towels or other absorbent material. (**Plate Washing Method:** Discard the solution in the plate without touching the side walls. Blot the plate onto paper towels or other absorbent material. Soak each well with at least 0.3 ml PBS or TBS buffer for 1–2 minutes. Repeat this process two additional times for a total of THREE washes. Note: For automated washing, aspirate all wells and wash THREE times with PBS or TBS buffer, overfilling wells with PBS or TBS buffer. Blot the plate onto paper towels or other absorbent material.)
6. Add 0.1ml of prepared ABC working solution into each well and incubate the plate at 37°C for 30 min.
7. Wash plate 5 times with 0.01M TBS or 0.01M PBS, and each time let washing buffer stay in the wells for 1-2 min. Discard the washing buffer and blot the plate onto paper towels or other absorbent material. (See Step 5 for plate washing method).
8. Add 90 µl of prepared TMB color developing agent into each well and incubate plate at 37°C in dark for 15-20 min (**Note:** For reference only, the optimal incubation time should be determined by end user. And the shades of blue can be seen in the wells with the four most concentrated human CCL17 standard solutions; the other wells show no obvious color).
9. Add 0.1ml of prepared TMB stop solution into each well. The color changes into yellow immediately.
10. Read the O.D. absorbance at 450nm in a microplate reader within 30 min after adding the stop solution.

V. Calculating Protein Concentration

- For all wells, determine O.D.450(Relative):

$$\text{O.D.450(Relative)} = \text{O.D.450(Reading)} - \text{O.D.450(Blank)}$$
- Plot the standard curve:
 Plot O.D.450(Relative) of each standard solution (Y) vs. the respective concentration of the standard solution (X). See **Figure 1** for a typical standard curve.
- The target protein concentration in samples can be interpolated from the standard curve. Multiply the interpolated concentration by the dilution factor to obtain the target protein concentration in the sample.

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